



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

7 September 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: September 5, 2006

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified from southern Pinellas to northern Collier County. The following potential bloom impacts through Sunday are patchy within each county. Southern Pinellas to Sarasota County: Today- High; Friday- Moderate; Saturday and Sunday- Low. Northern Charlotte and Northern Lee: Today- Moderate; Friday- Low; Saturday and Sunday- Very Low. Southern Charlotte and Northern Collier County: Today- Low; Friday through Sunday- Very Low. No impacts expected in Southern Lee County through Sunday.

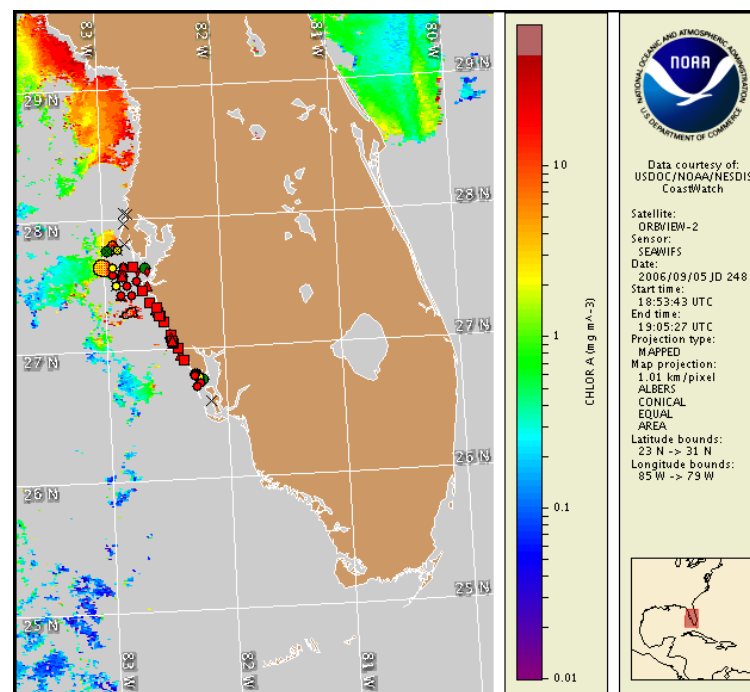
Analysis

A harmful algal bloom persists alongshore and offshore SW Florida from southern Pinellas to northern Collier County. The bloom has been confirmed onshore as far north as Redington Pier (very low, FWRI, 9/5). *K. brevis* concentrations in the northern to central Pine Island Sound region and in lower Tampa Bay (Skyway Fishing Pier) have increased to medium. Concentrations in Charlotte County have decreased (very low to medium; 9/5), and concentrations in northern Collier County range from low (Clam Pass) to present (FWRI, 9/5). Recent satellite imagery is largely obscured by clouds. As of 9/5, chlorophyll levels continually appeared high (up to $28 \mu\text{g/L}$) approximately 10nm southwest of New Pass ($27^{\circ}17'N$, $82^{\circ}46.6'W$). Offshore southern Pinellas County, approximately 4nm southwest of Redington Pier ($27^{\circ}49'N$, $82^{\circ}54.8'W$), chlorophyll levels are elevated up to $38 \mu\text{g/L}$. Results of a wind transport model indicate little net transport of the bloom (2-3 km north) since 9/4. Dead fish and respiratory irritation have been reported over the past few days in southern Pinellas and Sarasota County.

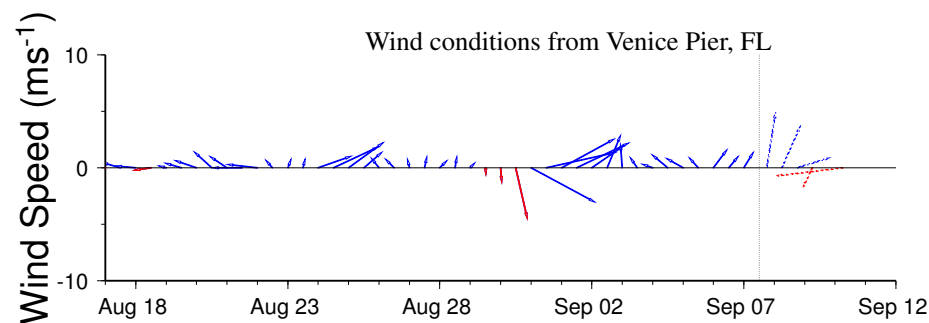
Conditions are slightly favorable for intensification of alongshore bloom concentrations, particularly in regions where *K. brevis* has recently been confirmed offshore and at depth. Mild easterly winds over the next few days should minimize impacts at the coast. Although no

extensive change in bloom conditions is expected, slight northern expansion is possible through Monday.

~Fisher, Urizar



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from August 28-September 1 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

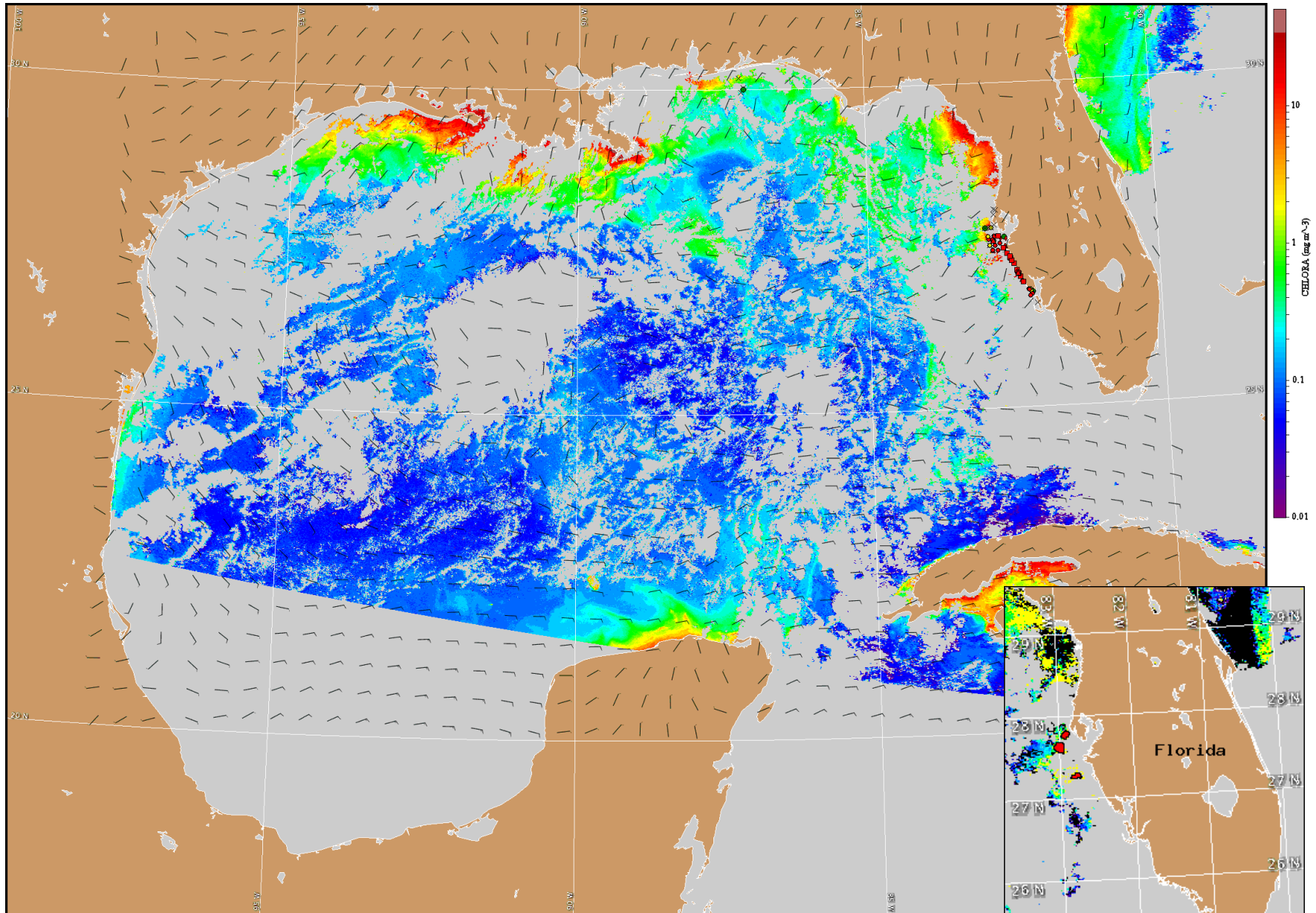


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Southeasterly winds expected today into Friday will shift onshore (5-10kts, 3-5m/s) in the afternoons. Easterlies Friday night (5kts, 3m/s) will shift northeasterly on Saturday (5-10, 3-5m/s) and return to easterlies Sunday and Monday (10kts, 5m/s).

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

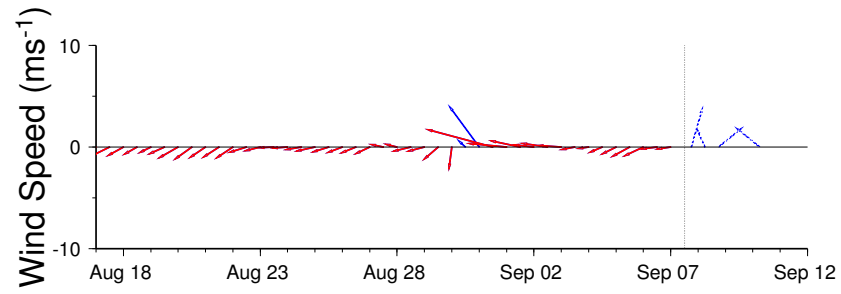
1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for September 8, 2006 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from August 28-September 1 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Naples, FL



Wind conditions from Egmont Key, FL

